

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has objected to the terms "follower" or "rotary member" used in the claims as having no support in the specification. Accordingly, the amendments to paragraphs [0014] and [0015] made herein address these issues by reciting the alternative description of members 56 and 60 to provide support for the claim language.

The Examiner has objected to claim 1 as unclear insofar as the combination claimed. claim 1 has been amended herein to delete the phrase "for use" and now recites the combination as including a vehicle deck lid.

The Examiner has rejected Applicants' claims as either anticipated or rendered obvious over the teachings of the patent to Gang '093 and in view of the teachings of the patent to Ponn et al '436.

It is noted that neither of these devices refers to the problem of locking a vehicle deck lid. The patent to Gang refers to locking a fuel filler cap; and, the patent to Ponn et al refers to vehicle door locks.

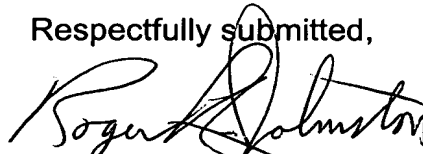
Applicants' base claim 1 has been amended herein to recite that the means operable for guiding the follower on the end of the cable for linear movement is attached to the latch assembly. Thus, the cable and its linear follower may be formed with the latch assembly as a subassembly separate from the locking mechanism.

The patent to Gang has the end of the cable guided by the plate into which the lock is mounted with a sliding follower engaged by a crank pin on the lock cylinder mechanism. Thus, it is necessary to assemble the cable end and the follower into the structure containing the lock. Applicants' device simplifies the construction and eliminates this by having the cable and its follower guide attached to the latch assembly.

Similarly it is noted that the structure operable to guide the cable follower in the Ponn device is attached to the lock mechanism (reference numeral 3) as opposed to the latch assembly as claimed in applicants' invention.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the amended claims patentably distinguish over the cited references and it is requested that the Examiner's rejection be withdrawn and the amended claims passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger A. Johnston", written over the printed name.

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